

## **CLAIMS**

### **What Is Claimed Is:**

- 1    1. A disposable device for picking up animal waste, comprising:
  - 2       a first element having a front portion with a lower end and a upper end, a
  - 3       rear portion with a lower end and an upper end, and a pair of resilient sealed
  - 4       opposed side edges;
  - 5       a resilient biodegradable bag sealed to the lower end of the front portion
  - 6       and the lower end of the rear portion;
  - 7       the first element being formed from three separate portions that are folded
  - 8       along fold lines and sealed together with the resilient biodegradable bag;
  - 9       a chute being formed in the first element between inner surfaces of the
  - 10      front portion and the rear portion and the pair of resilient sealed opposed side
  - 11      edges; and
  - 12      the chute normally being in the closed position and being open to the
  - 13      interior of the bag when the pair of resilient sealed opposed side edges are
  - 14      pressed toward each other by a user.
- 1    2. The disposable device of claim 1, further including a handle secured to the
- 2       lower end of the rear portion.
- 1    3. The disposable device of claim 2, further including a rounded portion on
- 2       the outer end of the rear portion.
- 3
- 1    4. The disposable device of claim 3, further including a concave area formed
- 2       on the outer end of the front portion.
- 1    5. The disposable device of claim 4, further including a flap secured to an
- 2       outer surface of the rear portion to form one of the pair of resilient sealed

3       opposed side edges and to aid in holding the facing surfaces of the front portion  
4       and the rear portion together.

1       6.      The disposable device of claim 1 wherein the first element is formed from a  
2       die-cut blank having three separate sections that are folded along fold lines and  
3       sealed together by a glue applied to selected portions of the die-cut blank and  
4       the resilient biodegradable bag.

1       7.      A method of forming a disposable device for picking up animal waste,  
2       comprising the steps of:

3               forming a blank having a front portion, a rear portion and a flap portion  
4       divided by a pair of fold lines;

5               forming the front portion with a rounded top end and a handle with an  
6       opening at a lower end;

7               forming in the rear portion with an open concave area in an upper end;

8               applying strips of glue to inner surfaces above the handle on the rear  
9       portion, along a lower end of the front portion and along a lower end and a side  
10      edge of the flap portion;

11              placing an open end of a bag against one of the strips of glue on the lower  
12      end of the front portion;

13              folding the rear portion toward the front portion along one of the pair of  
14      fold lines until inner surfaces meet each other, the bag and aligned strips of glue;  
15      and

16              folding the flap portion over until it contacts an outer face of the rear  
17      portion so as to form a combination chute and scoop with the bag secured  
18      thereto.

1       8.      The method of claim 7, comprising the further steps of pressing flexible  
2       side edges of the combination chute and scoop to form an opening therein.

1       9. A blank for forming a combination chute and scoop for a disposable device  
2 for picking up animal waste, comprising:  
3            a first section connected to second section and a third section by a pair of  
4 fold lines;  
5            the first section having an inner surface, an outer surface, a rounded top  
6 end and a bottom end with a handle formed thereon;  
7            the second section having an inner surface, an outer surface, a top end  
8 with a concave open area and a bottom end;  
9            the third section comprising a flap having an inner surface, an outer  
10 surface; and  
11           an adhesive applied to the bottom end of the inner surface of the first  
12 section at the bottom end, away from the handle, the bottom end of the inner  
13 surface of the second section and the inner surface of the flap, whereby when the  
14 first section is folded over the second section and the third section is folded over  
15 the first section the combination chute and scoop will be formed.

1       10. The blank of claim 9, further including a resilient bag inserted and held  
2 between the inner surface of the first section and the inner surface of the second  
3 section when they are folded and secured together.

1       11. The blank of claim 9 wherein the handle includes an opening formed  
2 therein.

1       12. The blank of claim 11, further including a resilient bag inserted and held  
2 between the inner surface of the first section and the inner surface of the second  
3 section when they are folded and secured together.

1       13. The blank of claim 9 wherein the rounded top end of the first section  
2 extends outwardly from the first section and acts as scoop.

1    14. The blank of claim 13, further including a resilient bag inserted and held  
2    between the inner surface of the first section and the inner surface of the second  
3    section when they are folded and secured together.

1    15. The blank of claim 9 wherein the concave open area formed on the outer  
2    end of the second section aids in directing animal waste into the combination  
3    chute and scoop.

1    16. The blank of claim 15, further including a resilient bag inserted and held  
2    between the inner surface of the first section and the inner surface of the second  
3    section when they are folded and secured together.